GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2888
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
WITHDRAWAL OF FLIGHT FROM GUWAHATI
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for withdrawal of Guwahati-Bangkok the only international flight from North East;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to resume international flights from Guwahati;

(c) by when the Government proposes to convert the Lok Priya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport as a hub for ATR-42 aircraft services;

(d) the reasons for the delay in this regard; and

(e) the details of the steps taken for reviving all the international flights from North East Region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a): Air India commenced international operations from Guwahati to Bangkok effective 4th April 2002. However, they had discontinued these flights from 27th April 2003 due to the increase in fuel prices, impact of SAARS on Civil Aviation Industry and lack of commercial viability.

(b): Air India has no plans to resume international flights from Guwahati for the present.

(c) and (d): Subject to availability of suitable Infrastructure, Alliance Air has plans to night halt one ATR aircraft at Guwahati.

(e): Presently, Air India operate a weekly flight from Kolkata to Mumbai to provide convenient connections to the UK / USA and Gulf points in the network. Indian Airlines currently has no plans to commence any international flights from Guwahati. Indian airlines links Guwahati on a daily basis with Kolkata and Delhi, the regional hubs in East and North India.